



# NETHER STOWE SCHOOL

## STUDENT DRESS AND APPEARANCE

**Including Items of clothing that manifest religion**

**Date: September 2016**

**Approved by Governing Body: 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2016**

<b>Version Control</b>	<b>V2</b>
<b>Date</b>	<b>Outcome</b>
<b>March 2015</b>	<b>Originally approved by Governors</b>
<b>September 2016</b>	<b>Reviewed and Updated</b>

**Next Review Date: September 2018**

## Philosophy

Nether Stowe is a secular, multi-cultural school. We believe that the uniform is an important way of creating a family out of the many different students that make up the school. It is a celebration of similarities rather than differences. The Nether Stowe uniform allows all students to be dressed smartly, in a way that promotes equality and support cultural and social modesty.

The Nether Stowe uniform aims to ensure that no child will feel pressured or offended on financial, moral or religious grounds.

Under Article 9.1 of the Human Rights Act, a student or parent has the right to **request** the wearing of items that 'manifest their religion'. Such requests must be made to the Headteacher and Chair of Governors in writing or in person.

The school has considered the possible altering of the uniform under Article 9.1 of the Human Rights Act in conjunction with the School Council, the Headteacher, staff, parents and Governing body.

Under Article 9.2 of the Human Rights Act, the Governors have decided to disallow the wearing of any items that alter or replace the school uniform in anyway in order to preserve the equality that underpins the school's values.

At all times, the Nether Stowe uniform must conform to Health and Safety standards and be suited to the activities being undertaken by students.

## Aims

We aim to:

- Help students to understand the importance of presenting themselves in a professional manner.
- Encourage students to wear their uniform with pride.
- Create a sense of belonging to the school community through a common dress code.
- Enable students to feel that they are a valued member of the school community irrespective ethnicity, gender, religion or socio-economic, religious or cultural grounds.

## To achieve our aims we will:

- Expect all students to wear school uniform and conform to acceptable standards of appearance.
- On admission to the school, ensure that parents are informed as to what is acceptable as school dress.
- Remind parents and students of expected standards of dress at regular intervals.
- Make adequate provision for the availability and purchasing of such items.
- Fully investigate any deviations from the agreed standards and if necessary further enlist the co-operation of parents. Students out of uniform will be isolated from their peers or sent home to change. If possible, we will lend students items of uniform, for a short period of time, so that they do not need to be isolated or sent home.
- Expect students to bring a note if they are unable for any reason to wear the correct school uniform.

## Success Criteria

- Students take a pride in their appearance and understand the importance of personal presentation.
- Students consistently wear correct school uniform.
- All staff challenge students who are not in school uniform.
- Students feel they belong to the Nether Stowe community and are valued, irrespective of ethnicity, gender, religion or socio-economic background.
- Parents support the school's dress code and provide students with a note if they are unable to send them to school in full uniform.

## School Uniform

### School Uniform

- Black **Blazer** with school badge to be worn at all times
- White **Shirt** with collar which buttons to the neck and is worn tucked in at all times
- Black **Trousers** which must be of an 'office' style
- Black **Skirt** must be plain, of a suitable material and length (no shorter than two inches above the knee)
- Black V-neck knitted **Sweater** (optional) – plain and long sleeved.
- School **Tie** – clip on type which must always be worn (KS3 red stripe and KS4 yellow).
- Dark socks or plain tights
- **Shoes**; plain black and leather style in appearance, **with** a very low heel (no higher than 2.5cm)
- Coat which should be plain and dark.
- **Further images of specific examples of permitted and non-permitted items of uniform can be found on the school website.**

#### PLEASE NOTE:

- **Trousers** – unacceptable items include: hipsters, cargo style, fitted/tight trousers or leggings, jeans-style, any coloured external labelling and those with studs or zipped front pockets.
- **Skirts** must not be made from 'stretchy', lycra type fabric.
- Round neck jumpers or cardigans are not acceptable.
- Sweatshirts, hooded tops or similar must not be worn, either as part of the school uniform or as a school coat.
- **Shoes** must not have logos or writing on them and any laces must be black. Images of appropriate footwear are published on the school website. Trainers, boots and canvas shoes are inappropriate footwear and must not be worn.

#### Hairstyles

Hair should be neat with no extremes in style, cut or colour and hair length should be not less than Grade 2 and Grade 1 haircuts are not allowed. Long hair must be tied back for all practical subjects.

#### Jewellery

Jewellery should be kept to a minimum – a watch, signet ring and single neck chain (not visible) are acceptable. Students are allowed ONE small pair of stud earrings (one in each ear). Nose and eyebrow studs and other such visible piercings are not acceptable and students will be required to remove them. It is not an acceptable excuse for a student to ask to wear unapproved jewellery to prevent a pierced ear or nose from closing up and covering piercings with a plaster or other item is not acceptable.

#### Make-up

Make-up is ACTIVELY DISCOURAGED and, if worn at all, should be barely visible. False eyelashes are not acceptable.

#### Nails

Nail varnish must not be worn in Key Stage 3 (Yrs 7, 8 and 9). In Key Stage 4 nails must look natural. Bright/dark colours are not acceptable and all nail varnish must be removed for practical lessons for Health and Safety regulations.

False Nails are not permitted.

#### Headscarves

A plain black head scarf may be worn to cover the hair. The fabric should be lightweight and black and worn so that the collar and tie can be seen. The headscarves should be folded under the chin, taken round to the back of the neck and the ends tucked in – this conforms to the health and safety requirements.

#### Jilbab

Under Article 9.2 of the Human Rights Act, the Jilbab is not permitted as part of the uniform. This decision has been taken by the Governors in consultation with the school community (students, parents and staff).

**If for medical reasons, any item of school uniform cannot be worn, evidence will need to be provided by the appropriate medical professional (eg GP/Consultant etc).**

## **Sanctions**

Debits will be issued to students with incorrect uniform. The school has a stock of uniform which can be loaned out temporarily for the day (this is regularly cleaned and laundered). Refusal to comply will result in the pupil being internally isolated and parents will be contacted.

## **PE KIT**

**The following items comprise the essential kit for all students:**

- **Plain black shorts (football-type) WITH school badge**
- **Plain black skirt WITH school badge (girls optional)**
- **Plain white short-sleeved polo shirt WITH school badge**
- **Outdoor reversible shirt (black on one side, black with white band on reverse) WITH school badge (boys only)**
- **Plain black hoodie WITH school badge and initials (optional) – no draw string on hood**
- **Plain Black 'fleece' top WITH school badge (optional)**
- **Plain black tracksuit bottoms WITH school badge (optional)**
- **White sports socks**
- **Black football socks (boys only)**
- **Training shoes (not pumps/converse/vans/Hi-tops)**
- **Football boots (boys only)**
- **Shin pads AND gum shield (boys only)**
- **Plain black swimsuit/swim shorts and swimming hat**
- **Towel**
- **Personalised GCSE PE top (applicable for GCSE course students only)**

**Please ensure that all items of uniform and PE kit are clearly named**

**All of the school uniform and P.E. kit is available from**

**Uniforms Plus, Greenhill, Lichfield**

**Please ensure that all items of uniform and P.E. kit are clearly named.**

**This revision replaces all other previously published versions on uniform guidance.**

**Sept 2016**